

Weston Commission for Children and Youth  
Minutes from the October 21, 2013 Meeting

*In attendance:* Michelle Albright, Chris Spaulding, Tiffany Davidson, Stacy Kamisar, Ellen Weyrauch, Dan Doak, Lynn Phillips, Dawn Egan, Catherine Minter, Jeff Drobner, Carl Filsinger

Meeting called to order at 5:12 pm by Michelle Albright

Approval of last meeting's minutes with a few typing errors corrected.

Membership

- We have two students who are interested in joining, but need an additional student commissioner. Members discussed whether it would be advantageous to have one representative from each class and whether the charter allows 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to serve as youth commissioners.
- Dawn Egan's term is up in December and she will be leaving our Commission after more than a decade! Although we are sad to see her go, we are incredibly grateful to Dawn for her involvement over the years.
- ➔ Lynn will review the charter to clarify requirements for youth commissioners.
- ➔ Dan and Michelle will continue to see if we can recruit an 11<sup>th</sup> grader as an additional youth commissioner.

Scheduling of future meetings

- Members discussed moving meetings to a different day of the week and starting slightly later. We will plan on meeting the third Wednesday of each month, unless there is a conflict and then we will plan to meet the first Wednesday.
- ➔ Our next meeting will be held Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the Commission Room

Directors report

- Tackling the Tough Stuff series is going well, have held several daytime and evening events with good attendance.
- Continuing to provide waivers for WOW programs, PTO membership fees, and arts/music programs
- Continuing to work with individual students and families in the aftermath of the accident earlier this summer
- Collaborating with high school staff and students on programs including pre-Homecoming activities, body image and acceptance, stress and coping, and Teen Peaceworks
- Co-sponsoring Trunk and Treat with the Weston Women's League and PTOs Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup> in the WIS parking lots

Family University

- Michelle shared a list with short bios of four potential speakers, the majority of whom speak on topics related to resilience, coping, and emotional intelligence. Chris also suggested Heidi Grant-Halverston.
  - Members discussed potential topics and speakers, and what would be most appropriate and engaging for both parents and students.
  - Members discussed how this event draws mainly middle-school students, and what topics/issues are most pertinent for those children and families
- ➔ Members should review potential speakers list and identify any other topics or speakers so we can plan to select a topic and speaker at our next meeting

#### High school initiatives

- Members discussed the mission of the pre-prom event usually sponsored in collaboration with ADAP and whether moving this event earlier in the year would be beneficial given that many seniors are already out on internship by mid-May.
  - Members also discussed other stress-reducing initiatives that could be co-sponsored by WYS including yoga, healthy snacks
- ➔ Michelle and Dan will speak to Lisa Deorio, Lois Pernice, and ADAP about scheduling of the pre-prom event and potential speakers

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Albright